Elementary and Secondary Schools

Depending on the provinces in which they live, pupils require six, seven or eight years to complete elementary or "public" school. Except in Quebec, these schools are co-educational. Although secondary schools are mainly academic, urban and "composite" rural schools may offer vocational courses such as home economics, business and technical training. Music, art and foreign languages normally form part of all academic courses, as well as mathematics and science. Extra-curricular activities enable a student to be a member of a school orchestra, a reporter for the school paper, a properties man in a dramatic society, or to play defence on a school hockey team. The high school, like the university, is in many ways a miniature world with its own school government, its own paper and its own organizations.

Universities and Colleges

Canada has some 40 universities and over 300 colleges affiliated with them. Some are assisted by provincial and federal grants; some receive support from religious denominations or derive part of their income from private endowment. The smaller colleges may enrol fewer than 100 students; the larger universities, more than 10,000. Most are co-educational. Some of the smaller colleges offer only a year or two of schooling and limited curricula. The larger universities offer a wide variety of courses and grant doctorates as well as bachelor's and master's degrees.



Priests who have been marking examination papers in the Grand Seminary of Quebec's historic Laval University pose for a photograph by the massive circular staircase

Most large cities in Canada have one or more universities. Many students who attend from out of town live in residence on or near the campus. The majority take some form of parttime or summer employment to help pay their board and tuition fees. In the past several years, university fees have been rising steadily, but this increase has been in part offset, at least for gifted students, by an increasing number of bursaries and scholarships. In the 1960's the universities face a rapidly-increasing enrolment. So many young Canadians want to go to college, and can afford to, that universities are faced with complex expansion and financial problems.

Higher education in Canada probably began in 1635 in Quebec. The largest university in the country is the University of Toronto. The largest university in Quebec is the University of Montreal, with its many affiliated colleges. Many universities are noted for their particular fields of study.

Adult Education

Universities and colleges, federal, provincial, and municipal departments and agencies and a wide variety of private and voluntary organizations and agencies sponsor adult-education activities in Canada. Part-time adult enrolment is rising rapidly in academic courses for degree or diploma credits in professional and vocational training, and in social and cultural educa-

tion. In the early 1960's enrolment in all types of adult-education courses exceeded 1,000,000. Public lectures, educational film showings, musical and dramatic performances attracted increasing attendance.

Among the courses provided for adults are language and citizenship for new Canadians, art instruction and appreciation, co-operative and business management, as well as more formal trade, technical and academic courses. In addition to night-school programmes in large cities and towns, and on university campuses, correspondence courses, class instruction and study groups are organized for people living on farms and in isolated areas, such as mining and logging camps and fishing villages.

Museum of Natural History, Regina, Saskatchewan

